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Man Sentenced to Prison for Assaulting Friend

A 20-year-old man accused of violently beating his friend pleaded no contest yesterday and was sentenced to prison, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Anthony Gerald Harmon of Compton pleaded no contest to one felony count of assault with force likely to create great bodily injury.

The defendant was immediately sentenced by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Patrick Connolly to six years in state prison.

Deputy District Attorney James Sargent, who prosecuted the case, said on March 1 a woman was leaving church when she witnessed Harmon and a man, later identified as the defendant's friend, arguing.

The woman testified in court that she saw Harmon brutally beating and kicking the man. She yelled at Harmon to stop, the prosecutor said, but the defendant continued.

At one point, Harmon finally stopped the beating and fled the scene. The woman called 911 and the victim was taken to the hospital for medical treatment.

The prosecutor said soon after the assault, police were notified about the attack. Law enforcement located Harmon near the scene of the incident and arrested him in connection with the crime.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Southeast Division.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime

and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.